

National Network of Libraries of Medicine South Central Region

Region 05

Annual Report

Year 01: July 2006 – April 2007

Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center Library

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Executive summary

Year 01 of the 2006-2011 RML Contract started on July 1, 2006; therefore, Year 01 only consisted of 10 months rather than the normal 12 month Contract Year.

Greg Bodin, Technology Coordinator, resigned his position effective July 26, 2006. Recruitment continued for Technology Coordinator position through Year 01. As we prepared our Year 02 budget in December 2006-January 2007, it became evident that the Assessment and Programs Coordinator position would not be filled for Year 02 to make up for the budget cut for Year 02; therefore, we ceased recruitment efforts to fill this position in January 2007. The staffing shortages, as well as the abbreviated Year 01, have affected the progress of Year 01 of the 2006-2011 RML Contract.

Karen Bülow joined the NN/LM SCR Staff as the Health Professionals Outreach Coordinator on October 2, 2006.

There will be 15 Resource Libraries in the SCR during the 2006-2011 RML Contract. The University of Texas Health Center Library at Tyler will no longer be a designated Resource Library due to an unforeseen, yet considerable staffing decrease.

The annual Resource Library Directors meeting was held in Houston, TX, on August 1, 2006 to review and discuss the 2006-2011 RML Contract. A joint Resource Library Outreach Contacts and Library Directors meeting was held in Houston, TX, on August 2, 2006 to review and discuss the 2006-2011 RML Contract. The Resource Library Outreach Contacts annual fall meeting was held in College Station, TX, on October 21, 2006 to share outreach ideas, review guidelines and procedures for developing outreach proposals and subcontracting, in general, with the NN/LM SCR.

Two MedlinePlus Go Local awards were made in Year 01: Baton Rouge General Medical Center will develop a Go Local project to cover the state of Louisiana. Texas A&M University Medical Sciences Library will develop a Go Local project to cover counties located in central Texas.

Assessment of health information providers to seniors was accomplished by conducting focus groups in the South Central Region.

Network infrastructure

TABLE 1. Annual infrastructure data

	Current year	Previous year
Network members – full	163	181
Network members – affiliate	703	661
Libraries providing services to unaffiliated health professionals	96 (55%)*	97 (55%)*
Libraries providing services to public users	92 (52%)*	93 (52%)*
Average fill rate for resource libraries	84%	81%

* Include in parentheses the percentage of full Network member members providing services to unaffiliated health professionals and public users. This can be computed as:
% providing services = (count of libraries providing services)/(count of full Network members)

Regional emergency preparedness planning

Renée Bougard attended the National Emergency Preparedness Collaboration Core Member Planning meeting at the UCLA Biomedical Library, Los Angeles CA, February 1-2, 2007. NN/LM SCR Network members who were invited guests included Mary Ryan, Director, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Library, Little Rock, AR, Deborah Halsted, Associate Director, Operations & Public Services, Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center Library, Houston, TX, and Marty Thompson, Director, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center Library, Oklahoma City, OK.

Ms. Bougard appointed Ethel Madden, Director, Knowledge Management, Ochsner Medical Foundation, New Orleans, LA, and Marty Thompson, Director, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center Library, Oklahoma City, OK, as Co-Chairs of the NN/LM SCR Emergency Preparedness and Planning Committee in April, 2007.

Identifying unique and historical collections

Identifying unique and historical collections falls under the Technology Coordinator. The Technology Coordinator position has been vacant since Mr. Bodin resigned in late July 2006. In the late Spring 2007, this area of the program was reassigned to Health Professionals Outreach Coordinator, who will begin working on this in Year 02.

E-licensing

The e-licensing initiative also falls under the Technology Coordinator, which has been vacant since late July 2006. The E-licensing Committee will be formed in Year 02.

EFTS

Promotional items were made available to Network members and questions were fielded at the NN/LM SCR Exhibit booth at the South Central Chapter/Medical Library Association conference in College Station TX, October 2006.

The NN/LM SCR had 104 EFTS participants at the end of Year 05 of the previous contract. That number remained the same through Year 01 of the 2006-2011 RML Contract.

Outreach

- Major (≥ \$15,000) projects funded in contract year: 8
- National exhibits conducted by RML: 3

- National exhibits conducted by subcontractors: 3
- Regional/state/local exhibits conducted by RML: 1
- Regional/state/local exhibits conducted by subcontractors: 41
- Courses developed/updated by RML staff

Michelle Malizia, Public Health Outreach Coordinator created *Step-by-Step Program Planning Using CDCynergy*. Planning is essential to the success of any library program, regardless of the activity, scope or content. Careful planning can greatly enhance the intended impact of your program, initiative, or project. In addition, a comprehensive project plan is essential for a winning grant proposal. This four-hour hands-on course focuses on program planning using CDCynergy, a tool developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. CDCynergy guides users step-by-step through a series of questions through which they define, clarify and analyze their project. An overview of the six phases of CDCynergy: Describe Problem; Analyze Problem; Plan Intervention; Develop Intervention; Plan Evaluation; Implement Plan will be provided. Class participants will leave the class with the tools necessary to begin planning projects.

Ms. Malizia updated the following classes:

Grants and Proposal Writing. Designed for beginning grant proposal writers, this class presents a general overview of the grant and funding processes as well as the level of detail required in a successful proposal. Each component of the grant writing process will be addressed, including: documenting the need; identifying the target population; writing measurable objectives; developing a work plan, an evaluation plan and dissemination plan.

Public Health Information on the Web. The field of public health encompasses a wide array of disciplines including health education, epidemiology and nursing. Digital literacy and the effective utilization of online information are among the core public health informatics competencies for the 21st century. This hands-on class will highlight web resources tailored to the public health workforce.

PubMed for Experts. Designed as an advanced class for experienced MEDLINE searchers. This hands-on class will highlight advanced PubMed techniques that can be used to conduct comprehensive searches. Attendees are encouraged to contribute past and present difficult searches to discuss with the class.

TOXNET: Toxicology & Environmental Information. This is a 3-hour hands-on class intended for inexperienced users. It is designed to introduce participants to the different databases available on TOXNET. Attendees will gain experience locating toxicology, chemical, and other hazardous substance information. Databases to be covered include: Hazardous Substances Data Bank (HSDB), LactMed, TOXLINE, TOXMAP, Household Products Database and ChemIDplus.

Karen Vargas, Consumer Health Outreach Coordinator, updated the following classes:

Beyond an Apple a Day: Providing Consumer Health Information at Your Library. This hands-on class will cover the information seeking behaviors of consumers. It will also address the recommended core reference collection, as well as databases and newsletters/ periodicals. It will cover the reference interview, disclaimers, and privacy as well as networking with medical librarians. The class will introduce the students to the Medical Library Association and its local chapters. It will describe possible ways to market this service in a community.

Caring for the Mind: Providing Reference Services for Mental Health Information. Attendees will gain awareness of mental health issues; learn to respond to challenging reference questions for mental health information; and be informed of tools for collection development and mental health research including the latest web sites and databases.

NLM's Consumer Health Databases. In recent years, the National Library of Medicine has produced a number of databases designed for the general public. These databases range from health information to environmental conditions that impact health. This 4 hour hands-on course is designed to be an overview of these databases.

¿No Comprendo? Spanish Health Information Resources for English Speaking Librarians. Do you have a growing Latino population in your community? Do you need to quickly find health information in Spanish but don't know where to look? Are the only words in your Spanish vocabulary burrito and gracias? If you answered yes to these questions, then this is the class for you. This 4-hour hands-on class will cover resources for learning basic, library, medical, and Internet Spanish vocabulary. You will also learn to evaluate and identify health websites in Spanish to which you can direct your patrons.

Prescription for Success: Consumer Health on the Web. This hands-on introduction to consumer health information will cover the information-seeking behaviors of consumers, the basics of MedlinePlus.gov, DIRLINE, ClinicalTrials.gov and other reliable web pages such as those from professional medical associations and advocacy groups. It will cover sites devoted to pharmaceutical information for consumers, drug-interaction databases and herbal information.

Super Searcher. This hands-on course focuses on the advanced search features of web search engines and the cutting edge of searching. Participants will use various search engines, compare the features and utility of each and develop search strategies that will increase the precision and scope of their searching. The students will have discussions, exercises and view short presentations as a part of the class. The class includes: discussions of web search engines, indexes and hybrids of the two, commercialism and how it influences searching, finding current events information with search engines, specialized databases for special needs and topics suggested by the participants.

Will Duct Tape Cure My Health: Examining Complementary and Alternative Medicine. The goal of this class is to increase understanding of Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM). Students will learn the history of CAM and its impact on medical practices. They will learn how CAM is used, how to avoid "bad science" and how to look up evidence of the effectiveness of CAM therapies. This class is offered for 2 hours or 4 hours. Both classes will include lecture, discussion, and hands-on training.

TABLE 2. Site visits

Date	Last name of RML staff responsible	Institution	Location (city, state)	Topics addressed
9.21.06	Vargas	Baton Rouge General Hospital	Baton Rouge LA	Go Local
9.21.06	Vargas	East Baton Rouge Parish Library	Baton Rouge LA	Go Local

Web site use

